

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 10621 041329Z

53

ACTION PC-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 SY-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 /037 W
----- 092042

R 041222Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6154

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 10621

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP PORS ET

SUBJECT: PEACE CORPS PROGRAM

REF: A. ADDIS 10510; B. ADDIS 10550

1. WE HAVE HAD A NUMBER OF PEACE CORPS VISITORS FROM U.S. IN RECENT WEEKS, INCLUDING DIRECTOR FOR AF AND TWO MEMBERS OF ADVISORY COUNCIL. ALL HAVE UNDERSTANDABLY BEEN INTERESTED IN SECURITY FACTOR FOR PCV'S AND IN PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE OF PC PROGRAM IN ETHIOPIA. REF A GIVES ACCURATE PICTURE, AS FAR AS IT GOES, OF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF PRESENT OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES. EMBASSY WOULD ADD FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ON POLICY:

(A) U.S. POLICY REQUIRES THAT ALL U.S. AGENCIES, INCLUDING PEACE CORPS, SEEK TO CONTINUE CLOSE AND HELPFUL RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA, CONSISTENT WITH PRACTICAL CONDITIONS HERE, AND DESIRES OF EPMG.

(B) THIS IS A SOCIETY IN TRANSITION. NOBODY, NOT EVEN THE RULING DIRG, CAN KNOW HOW U.S. PROGRAMS WILL FIT INTO THE NEW INSTITUTIONS AND NEW POLICIES THAT ARE EMERGING. UNTIL WE DO KNOW, FLEXIBILITY AND PATIENCE SHOULD BE OUR GUIDES.

(C) RECENT DRASTIC REDUCTION FROM OVER 150 TO LESS THAN 40 PCV'S WAS DICTATED SOLELY BY SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS. EPMG UNDERSTANDS THIS AND HAS MADE NO COMPLAINTS. AS INDICATED PARA THREE REF A, PC WILL REMAIN ALERT TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR PLACEMENT ADDITIONAL PCV'S.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 10621 041329Z

2. EMBASSY MUST DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM ALARMIST AND ONE-SIDED

PICTURE GIVEN IN REF B, WHICH STRINGS TOGETHER NEGATIVE FACTORS ONLY. MANY INCIDENTS DESCRIBED ARE COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO SAFETY OF PCV'S. NOR CAN THAT CABLE BE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED AS "SUMMARY OF POLITICAL CONDITIONS IN ETHIOPIA AS THEY APPLY TO SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF PCV'S" (OPENING PARA). EMBASSY PARTICULARLY OBJECTS TO REVIVAL (LAST PARA) OF PREVIOUSLY DISCREDITED SUGGESTION FOR TERMINATION OF WHOLE PC PROGRAM IN ETHIOPIA WHEN IT IS OBVIOUS THAT REASONABLE CONDITIONS STILL EXIST FOR A NUMBER OF PCV'S TO CONTINUE TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS.

3. YESTERDAY DURING CALL ON PMAC CHAIRMAN TEFERI BANTE, AMBASSADOR REQUESTED THAT EPMG CONSIDER APPROPRIATE AREAS WHERE U.S. PROGRAMS COULD FIT INTO AND SUPPORT EPMG PROGRAMS. USING PEACE CORPS AS AN EXAMPLE, AMB SAID SHARP REDUCTION IN PCV'S WAS SOLELY ON GROUNDS OF SECURITY, AND THAT WHENEVER EPMG IS READY TO OUTLINE AREAS OR PROGRAMS WHERE IT WISHES TO HAVE PCV SUPPORT, USG IS READY TO DISCUSS SENDING MORE VOLUNTEERS. HE SAID USG RECOGNIZES ETHIOPIA IS IN PROCESS OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGE, AND THEREFORE APPROPRIATE ROLES OF FOREIGN PROGRAMS ARE NOT YET CLEAR, BUT AMB WANTED EPMG TO KNOW OF U.S. DESIRE TO CONTINUE ASSISTANCE. TEFERI EXPRESSED APPRECIATION, AGREED THAT CONTINUING PROCESS OF REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE HAS MADE IT UNCLEAR, EVEN TO EPMG, PRECISELY WHAT ROLES FOREIGN ASSISTANCE SHOULD ASSUME. HE SAID HE WOULD ASK VARIOUS MINISTRIES TO LOOK INTO MATTER, ESPECIALLY IN CONNECTION WITH PEACE CORPS.

4. THIS IS A VIOLENT SOCIETY, AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN. BUT PCV'S ARE NOT TARGETS OF DISPUTING FACTIONS, AND PC ALONG WITH OTHER AMERICANS HAS SUCCESSFULLY ADJUSTED TO UNCERTAINTIES OF LIFE IN ETHIOPIA, AS IN MID-1960'S WHEN MANY PCV'S HAD TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM DISTURBED AREAS. SAFETY OF PCV'S AND OTHER AMERICANS DESERVES, AND WILL CONTINUE TO GET, VERY CLOSE ATTENTION. OTHER FACTORS, ALSO, MAY CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR PC, SUCH AS POSSIBILITY THAT DESPITE FORMAL OPENING OF FALL TERM FOR NON-ZEMETCHA STUDENTS THROUGH TENTH GRADE, CONTINUED STUDENT UNREST MAY MAKE IT DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE FOR PCV-TEACHERS TO FUNCTION. AND IF EPMG DOES NOT SUGGEST SUITABLE NEW AREAS FOR PLACEMENT OF PCV'S, WE MAY SEE FURTHER FORCED DRAWDOWN IN PC PROGRAM. RUMORED GOVERNMENTAL CHANGES ON SEPT 13 ANNIVERSARY MAY OR MAY NOT PRODUCE CLARIFICATION OF SITUATION IN TERMS OF SECURITY IN COUNTRY-SIDE, OR EPMG POLICIES TOWARD FOREIGN EXPERTS OR FOREIGN AID. WE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ADDIS 10621 041329Z

SEE SIGNS OF SHARP CRACKDOWN ON PREVIOUSLY UNDISCIPLINED RADICAL QEMETCHA ELEMENTS WHO HAVE BEEN CAUSE OF MOST PROBLEMS IN RURAL AREAS. IN MEANTIME EMBASSY BELIEVES PEACE CORPS SHOULD CONDUCT ITSELF WITH STEADINESS AND PATIENCE, IN LINE WITH OVERALL USG POLICIES TOWARD ETHIOPIA.
HUMMEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ADDIS10621
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750305-1090
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750981/aaaactlk.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PC
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ADDIS ABABA 10510, 75 ADDIS ABABA 10550
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PEACE CORPS PROGRAM
TAGS: AFSP, PORS, ET, US, PEACE CORPS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006